

Rochester is a city steeped in rich history. Built on the banks of the Genesee River, our city has given rise to tremendous feats of American ingenuity, great leaders and activists like Susan B. Anthony and Hester C. Jeffrey, and a community spirit of togetherness that makes this a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family. Like you, I am proud to call myself a Rochesterian.

The future of our beautiful Rochester is bright. In the coming years we will build on our successes and achievements and carry on the unique spirit of community we hold dear.

We will follow in the footsteps of great minds and philanthropists like John Jacob Bausch, Chester Carlson, George Eastman, Frank Gannett, Henry Lomb, Hiram Sibley and Joseph Wilson to ensure a booming business sector.

I foresee our fine academic institutions producing another crop of remarkable inventors like William Seward Burroughs and George Selden, and outstanding athletes like Cathy Turner, Abby Wambach and Roland Williams.

Rochester will continue to be the proud hometown of award winning actors who will join Taye Diggs, Nicole Fiscella and Phillip Seymour Hoffman on the stage and screen. We will raise up more notable literary contributors like Andrea Barrett and Edward Hoch, artists like Ramon Santiago, and incomparable musicians, band leaders and singers like Cab Calloway, Charlene Keys ("Tweet") the Mangione brothers and Mitch Miller.

A truly great city is one that is always striving to improve and strengthen itself. We are doing just that in Rochester.

We are supporting local businesses, like those on Jefferson Avenue, who are the cornerstone of Rochester's economic engine. We are promoting our academic institutions and research facilities – like the University of Rochester and Delphi whose tremendous achievement in fuel cell technology will be critical to our nation's energy needs and Rochester' economic future. We are investing in affordable housing to ensure that every Rochesterian, regardless of ethnicity or social standing, will have a place called home.

We are making sure that our city is attractive to new businesses and tourists. The future for our city certainly includes a high-speed rail line which will enable new businesses to thrive. Residents will board high speed trains each morning to their meetings in Albany and New York City -- and return by rail each evening to backyard barbeques and quiet dinners at their homes in Rochester and surrounding towns and villages.

Throughout history, our community in Rochester has been alive with the pursuit of academic and scientific achievement, fine music and artistry, sports activities, and community festivals. In the years ahead, let us band together – government, neighborhoods, and families to continue the vitality of our beautiful, beloved Rochester.